1 2 atinia Chile So Ordered. 3 Patricia C. Williams **Bankruptcy Judge** 4 **Dated: May 10th, 2013** 5 6 7 8 9 UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT 10 EASTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON 11 12 In re: No. 09-06194-PCW11 LLS AMERICA, LLC, 13 Debtor. 14 15 BRUCE P. KRIEGMAN, solely in 16 his capacity as court-appointed Chapter 11 Trustee for LLS America, 17 Plaintiff, Adv. No. 11-80112-PCW11 18 19 VS. MEMORANDUM DECISION RE: PLAINTIFF'S MOTION TO COMPEL DISCOVERY (ECF No. 39) 20 STEPHEN BRISCOE, 21 Defendant. 22

The purpose of this decision is to resolve and provide guidance to the parties concerning plaintiff's Motion to Compel Discovery (ECF No. 39) seeking to compel defendant Stephen Briscoe to answer discovery. As the defendant did not file any responsive pleading nor appear at the hearing on May 9, 2013, no explanation has been provided justifying the failure to respond to the interrogatories and requests for production.

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The interrogatories and requests for production were initially served December 20, 2012. Responses were due thirty (30) days thereafter, however, the defendant failed to respond to the interrogatories and requests for production. Not a single document was produced in response to 19 document requests and there is simply no response of any kind to the interrogatories. Plaintiff requested by letter of March 7, 2013, that responses be provided by April 1, 2013, and, if not, stated that plaintiff would file a motion to compel and request attorneys fees and costs associated with the motion.

The defendant is sanctioned \$500 payable to counsel for the plaintiff as partial compensation to plaintiff of the costs of proceeding with the motion to compel.

The defendant is advised that a review of two scheduling orders would assist the defendant in responding to the interrogatories and requests to produce. The Amended Case Schedule Order Re Common Issues (ECF No. 214) and the Amended Case Schedule Order Re Non-Common Issues (ECF No. 219) filed in adversary proceeding No. 11-80299-PCW11, which is applicable in this adversary, should be reviewed.

The defendant must answer the proposed interrogatories and comply with the requests to produce documents no later than thirty (30) days from the date of the related order. Fed. R. Bankr. P. 7034 requires that the defendant identify each document as being produced in response to a particular request and provide an index of the documents produced. The defendant is reminded that the definition of "document" includes electronic documents, which are addressed in Fed. R. Bankr. P. 7034(E). Should the defendant object to a particular interrogatory or request to produce, the objection and its basis must be set forth with particularity.

Failure to participate and respond to discovery as a required in the related order or Fed. R. Civ. P. 26 may result in further sanctions, which may include directing that certain facts are established for purposes of the action, prohibiting certain claims or defenses, striking pleadings and awarding fees and expenses for delay. Fed. R. Civ. P. 37(b)(2)(A)(i)-(iv), (c).

This Memorandum Decision resolves Plaintiff's Motion to Compel Discovery (ECF No. 39) and an order will be entered accordingly. ///END OF MEMORANDUM DECISION/// MEMORANDUM DECISION RE: . . . - Page 3

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